
IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 21, 1873.

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

AN ACT

To provide for headstones in the national military cemeteries.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of War to adver-
4 tise for thirty days in at least ten newspapers, not more than
5 one of which shall be in the same State or district, of general
6 circulation, for proposals for the making and placing in the
7 national military cemeteries, of headstones of marble or
8 granite, of such styles and sizes as he may select, which
9 stones shall have inscribed upon them the name of the soldier,
10 his rank, if above a private, company, regiment, and date of
11 death, which shall cost not to exceed five dollars each. And
12 upon the opening of such proposals he shall adopt such styles
13 and sizes as he may see fit, and award the contract to the
14 lowest responsible bidder or bidders for such style and size
15 or styles and sizes as he may see fit. And he shall not be

16 confined in his selection to any single style or size, but shall
17 exercise his discretion as to the same. And the Secretary of
18 War shall, after the opening of the bids, award the contract
19 or contracts to the lowest responsible bidder or bidders; and
20 he may award, in his discretion, the same to any bidder
21 or bidders for single cemeteries or any greater number not
22 to exceed the amount of the appropriation made at the
23 time; and he shall in like manner advertise each year
24 hereafter for such number of headstones as the appropriation
25 for that purpose for such year will admit of, until all the
26 graves in said national cemeteries are properly marked as
27 contemplated by this act. And the appropriation heretofore
28 made for the purpose shall remain applicable thereto for two
29 years from the date hereof unless sooner expended.

Passed the House of Representatives February 19, 1873.

Attest:

EDWARD McPHERSON, *Clerk.*